% JS 44 (Rev. 12/07) (cand rev 1-16-08)

CIVIL COVER SHEET

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON PAGE TWO OF THE FORM.)

Virginia Pellegrini, Trustee of the Mario J. Pellegrini & Virginia E. Pellegrini Trust, & Virginia Pellegrini, an individual Technichem Inc., a California corporation, Mark J. Ng, an individual Stephen S. Tung, an individual, et al.	al:			
	Technichem Inc., a California corporation, Mark J. Ng, an individual; Stephen S. Tung, an individual, et al.			
(b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff (EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES) (EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES) (IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY) NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE LAND INVOLVED.	(IN U.S. PLA INTIFF CASES ONLY) NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE			
(c) Attorney's (Firm Name, Address, and Telephone Number) Attorneys (If Known)	Attorneys (If Known)			
William D. Wick, Jon K. Wactor, Anna L. Nguyen Wactor & Wick LLP, 180 Grand Avenue, Suite 950, Oakland, CA 94612 (510) 465-5750 Paul A. Henreid, Gordon & Rees LLP 101 West Broadway, Suite 1600, San Diego, CA 92101 (619) 696-6700	101 West Broadway, Suite 1600, San Diego, CA 92101			
II. BASIS OF JURISDICTION (Place an "X" in One Box Only) III. CITIZENSHIP OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES (Place an "X" in One Box for Defendar (For Diversity Cases Only) and One Box for Defendar	ıt)			
PIF DEF PTF U.S. Government Plaintiff (U.S. Government Not a Party) Plaintiff (U.S. Government Not a Party) PTF DEF PTF Citizen of This State 1 1 1 Incorporated or Principal Place of Business In This State	DEF 4			
U.S. Government 4 Diversity Citizen of Another State 2 2 Incorporated and Principal Place of Business In Another State	5			
Citizen or Subject of a 3 5 Foreign Nation 6 Foreign Country IV. NATURE OF SUIT (Place an "X" in One Box Only)	6			
CONTRACT TORTS FORFEITURE/PENALTY BANKRUPTCY OTHER STATE	JTES			
110 Insurance	ing need and ations t c nodities/ nge Actions s ization Act Matters n Act rmation			
V. ORIGIN (Place an "X" in One Box Only) I Original 2 Removed from 3 Remanded from 4 Reinstated or 5 another district 6 Multidistrict 7 Judge from Proceeding State Court Appellate Court Reopened (specify) Litigation Magistrate Judgment Cite the U.S. Civil Statute under which you are filing (Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity):				
VI. CAUSE OF ACTION Brief description of cause: Cost recovery/contribution under RCRA & CERCLA for environmental contamination.				
VII. REQUESTED IN ☐ CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION DEMAND \$ CHECK YES only if demanded in complaint: COMPLAINT: UNDER F.R.C.P. 23 JURY DEMAND: ▼ Yes ☐ No				
VIII. BELATED CASE(S) PLEASE REFER TO CIVIL L.R. 3-12 CONCERNING REQUIREMENT TO FILE "NOTICE OF RELATED CASE". Docket Number of CV-02497-CRB				
IX. DIVISIONAL ASSIGNMENT (CIVIL L.R. 3-2) (PLACE AND "X" IN ONE BOX ONLY) DATE SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY OF RECORD.				
4/30/08				

1	WILLIAM D. WICK (State Bar No. 063462			
2	JON K. WACTOR (State Bar No. 141566) ANNA L. NGUYEN (State Bar. No. 226829) WACTOR & WICK LLP			
	180 Grand Avenue, Suite 950 Oakland CA 94612-3572			
4	Telephone: (510) 465-5750 Facsimile: (510) 465-5697			
5	` ,			
6	Attorneys for Plaintiffs Virginia Pellegrini and Visitaia Palla visit Trusta a			
7	Virginia Pellegrini, Trustee of the Mario J. and Virginia E. Pellegrini Trust			
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9	LIAITTED CTAT	CEC DICEDICE COURT		
10		ES DISTRICT COURT		
11	FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA			
12				
13	VIRGINIA PELLEGRINI, Trustee of the	Case No. 07-CV-02497-CRB		
14		FIRST AMENDED COMPLAINT FOR		
15	individual, Plaintiffs,	FIRST AMENDED COMPLAINT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL COST RECOVERY AND CONTRIBUTION, INJUNCTIVE		
16 17	٧.	RELIEF, DECLARATORY RELIEF, AND DAMAGES		
	TECHNICHEM INC a California	DEMAND FOR HIDY TOTAL		
18	TECHNICHEM, INC., a California corporation, MARK J. NG, an individual;	DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL		
19	BOBBY PAGE CLEANERS, BONDED			
20	CLEANERS, CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY PATROL; CALIFORNIA STATE PRISON			
21	PRISON AT FOLSOM, CALIFORNIA			
22	STATE PRISON – SAN QUENTIN, COLONY CLEANERS – 28, DESERT			
23	DISCOUNT CLEANERS, DOLLAR CLEANERS, DEUEL VOCATIONAL			
24	EXECUTIVE (ONE HOUR)			
25	MARTINIZING, FRANCHISE TAX BOARD, INTERCITY CLEANERS, M & M			
26	CLEANERS, MONROVIA CLEANERS, MULE CREEK STATE PRISON, ONE			
27	HOUR CLEANERS, ONE PRICE CLEANERS, PACIFIC GROVE			
28	CLEANERS, PARADISE CLEANERS, PARK AVENUE CLEANERS,			
C LLP uite 950	,	-1-		

WACTOR & WICK LLP 180 Grand Avenue, Suite 950 Oakland, CA 94612

PROCUREMENT OFFICE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CURRECTIONS, CORRECTIONAL TRAINING FACILITY, PROCUREMENT OFFICE OF THE SIERRA CONSERVATION CENTER, R. BAUERLE TRUCKING, RESOLVENT, INC., ROMIC ENVIRÓNMENTAL TECHNOLOGIES, SAVE-ON CLEANERS, 5 VIRGINIA CLEANERS, VOGUE CLEANERS, ZURICH INSURANCE COMPANY, and DOES 1 to 200, 6 7 Defendants. 8

Plaintiffs VIRGINIA PELLEGRINI, Trustee of the Mario J. and Virginia E. Pellegrini Trust, and VIRGINIA PELLEGRINI, individually ("Plaintiffs") seeks recovery of costs incurred and to be incurred, and damages suffered and to be suffered, as a result of the release of hazardous substances and hazardous wastes on Plaintiffs' property at 4245 Halleck Street in Emeryville, California ("the Property"). Plaintiffs demand a jury trial and allege as follows:

PARTIES

- 1. Virginia Pellegrini is, and at all times material to this complaint has been, an individual who resides in the State of California. She is also the Trustee of the Mario J. and Virginia E. Pellegrini Trust.
- 2. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and on that basis allege, that Defendant Technichem, Inc. is, and at all times material to this complaint has been, a corporation organized, and existing under the laws of the State of California, with places of business in Hayward, California and Sparks, Nevada. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and on that basis allege, that Technichem, Inc., at all times herein mentioned is and has been an owner and operator of a chemical recycling business, authorized to do business, and doing business as Technichem, Inc., under the laws of the State of California.

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- 3. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and on that basis allege, that Defendant 2 Mark Ng is an individual who resides in the State of California. Plaintiffs are informed
- 3 and believe, and on that basis allege, that Mark Ng was an operator and lessee of the
- Property, and that at all times herein mentioned Mr. Ng was and is the President of
- 5 Technichem, Inc.
 - 4. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and on that basis allege, that Defendant Stephen S. Tung is an individual who resides in the State of California. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and on that basis allege, that Stephen S. Tung was an operator of the Property, and that at all times herein mentioned Mr. Tung was and is the Chief Operating Officer of Technichem, Inc. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and on that basis allege, that Stephen Tung was also an operator of Resolvent, Inc., and at all times herein mentioned Mr. Tung is the President, Director, and Treasurer of Resolvent, Inc.
 - 5. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and on that basis allege, that defendant Bobby Page Cleaners is an unknown business entity, form unknown, which is authorized to do and is doing business in the State of California.
 - 6. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and on that basis allege, that defendant Bonded Cleaners is an unknown business entity, form unknown, which is authorized to do and is doing business in the State of California.
 - 7. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and on that basis allege, that defendant California Highway Patrol is a State of California government agency, which sent hazardous materials and hazardous wastes to the Site for disposal, recycling or other handling and whose materials and wastes were released into the environment at the Site.
 - 8. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and on that basis allege, that defendant California State Prison – Corcoran is a State of California government agency, which sent hazardous materials and hazardous wastes to the Site for disposal, recycling or other handling and whose materials and wastes were released into the environment at the Site.

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- 9. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and on that basis allege, that defendant California State Prison at Folsom is a State of California government agency, which sent hazardous materials and hazardous wastes to the Site for disposal, recycling or other handling and whose materials and wastes were released into the environment at the Site.
- 10. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and on that basis allege, that defendant California State Prison – San Quentin is a State of California government agency, which sent hazardous materials and hazardous wastes to the Site for disposal, recycling or other handling and whose materials and wastes were released into the environment at the Site.
- 11. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and on that basis allege, that defendant Colony Cleaners - 28 is an unknown business entity, form unknown, which is authorized to do and is doing business in the State of California.
- 12. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and on that basis allege, that defendant Desert Discount Cleaners is an unknown business entity, form unknown, which is authorized to do and is doing business in the State of California.
- 13. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and on that basis allege, that defendant Dollar Cleaners is an unknown business entity, form unknown, which is authorized to do and is doing business in the State of California.
- 14. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and on that basis allege, that defendant Deuel Vocational Institute is a State of California government agency, which sent hazardous materials and hazardous wastes to the Site for disposal, recycling or other handling and whose materials and wastes were released into the environment at the Site.
- 15. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and on that basis allege, that defendant Economy Cleaners is an unknown business entity, form unknown, which is authorized to do and is doing business in the State of California.

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- 16. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and on that basis allege, that defendant Executive (One Hour) Martinizing is an unknown business entity, form unknown, which is authorized to do and is doing business in the State of California.
- 17. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and on that basis allege, that defendant Franchise Tax Board is a State of California government agency, which sent hazardous materials and hazardous wastes to the Site for disposal, recycling or other handling and whose materials and wastes were released into the environment at the Site.
- 18. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and on that basis allege, that defendant Intercity Cleaners is an unknown business entity, form unknown, which is authorized to do and is doing business in the State of California.
- 19. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and on that basis allege, that defendant M & M Cleaners is an unknown business entity, form unknown, which is authorized to do and is doing business in the State of California.
- 20. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and on that basis allege, that defendant Monrovia Cleaners is an unknown business entity, form unknown, which is authorized to do and is doing business in the State of California.
- 21. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and on that basis allege, that defendant Mule Creek State Prison is a State of California government agency, which sent hazardous materials and hazardous wastes to the Site for disposal, recycling or other handling and whose materials and wastes were released into the environment at the Site.
- 22. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and on that basis allege, that defendant One Hour Cleaners is an unknown business entity, form unknown, which is authorized to do and is doing business in the State of California.
- 23. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and on that basis allege, that defendant One Price Cleaners is an unknown business entity, form unknown, which is authorized to do and is doing business in the State of California.

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- 24. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and on that basis allege, that defendant Pacific Grove Cleaners is an unknown business entity, form unknown, which is authorized to do and is doing business in the State of California.
- 25. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and on that basis allege, that defendant Paradise Cleaners is an unknown business entity, form unknown, which is authorized to do and is doing business in the State of California.
- 26. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and on that basis allege, that defendant Park Avenue Cleaners is an unknown business entity, form unknown, which is authorized to do and is doing business in the State of California.
- 27. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and on that basis allege, that defendant Procurement Office of the Department of Corrections, Correctional Training Facility is a State of California government agency, which sent hazardous materials and hazardous wastes to the Site for disposal, recycling or other handling and whose materials and wastes were released into the environment at the Site.
- 28. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and on that basis allege, that defendant Procurement Office of the Sierra Conservation Center is a State of California government agency, which sent hazardous materials and hazardous wastes to the Site for disposal, recycling or other handling and whose materials and wastes were released into the environment at the Site.
- 29. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and on that basis allege, that defendant R. Bauerle Trucking is an unknown business entity, form unknown, which is authorized to do and is doing business in the State of California.
- 30. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and on that basis allege, that defendant Resolvent, Inc. is a corporation that is organized and exists under the laws of Nevada and is authorized to do and is doing business in the State of California. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and on that basis allege, that defendant Resolvent Inc. has a contractual or other relationship to Technichem, Inc. and has or may have handled and

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released hazardous materials and wastes on Plaintiffs' property during the course of its business operations and is therefore liable for Plaintiffs' injuries.

- 31. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and on that basis allege, that defendant Romic Environmental Technologies is an unknown business entity, form unknown, which is authorized to do and is doing business in the State of California.
- 32. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and on that basis allege, that defendant Save-On Cleaners is an unknown business entity, form unknown, which is authorized to do and is doing business in the State of California.
- 33. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and on that basis allege, that defendant Virginia Cleaners is an unknown business entity, form unknown, which is authorized to do and is doing business in the State of California.
- 34. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and on that basis allege, that defendant Vogue Cleaners is an unknown business entity, form unknown, which is authorized to do and is doing business in the State of California.
- 35. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and on that basis allege, that defendant Zurich Insurance Company is a corporation that is organized and exists under the laws of the State of Illinois and is authorized to do business and is doing business in the State of California.
- 36. Plaintiffs are ignorant of the true names and capacities of the Defendants sued herein under the fictitious names DOES 1 to 200. Plaintiffs are informed and believe and thereon allege that each fictitious defendant was in some way responsible for, participated in, or contributed to matters that Plaintiffs complain of, and has a legally responsibility for those matters. When Plaintiffs become aware of the true names and capacities of the Defendants sued as DOES 1 to 200, Plaintiffs will amend this Complaint to state their true names.
- 37. Investigations are ongoing regarding the claims and the parties responsible for damages, injuries, and cost as alleged herein. The allegations of this First Amended Complaint are made on information and belief and are based upon the investigation

1 conducted to date, including the discovery responses of Defendants Technichem, Ng and 2 Tung. This First Amended Complaint may be amended or supplemented if additional 3 investigation or analysis so warrants. 4 5 NATURE OF THE ACTION 6 38. This is an action that arises from pollution caused by Defendants' acts and 7 omissions at the Property. 8 39. Defendants have caused or permitted the release of hazardous substances, contaminating the soil and groundwater on Plaintiffs' property. 10 40. Plaintiffs seek various relief, including but not limited to cleanup costs, 11 damages, declaratory and injunctive relief, restitution, attorneys' fees and experts' costs as a result of environmental contamination caused by Defendants. 12 13 14 **JURISDICTION** 41. 15 This Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter of this action pursuant to the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), 42 U.S.C. § 6972(a); the 16 17 Comprehensive Environmental Response and Compensation Act (CERCLA), 42 U.S.C. §§ 9613(b) and (f), and 42 U.S.C. § 9607; pursuant to the Declaratory Judgment Act, 28 18 19 U.S.C. § 2201; and pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1331. 42. 20 This Court also has subject matter jurisdiction over Plaintiffs' claims brought 21 under state law by virtue of the supplemental jurisdiction provided in 28 U.S.C. § 1367, 22 and under the doctrine of pendent jurisdiction set forth in *United Mine Workers v. Gibbs*, 23 383 U.S. 715 (1966). Plaintiffs' claims under state law arise from the same nucleus of 24 operative facts as the claims under federal law. 25 26 27 28

<u>VENUE</u>

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43. Pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 9613(b), venue is proper in any District in which the release or damages occurred. The release and damages occurred in Emeryville, California, which is in the Northern District of California.

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GENERAL ALLEGATIONS

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44. The Mario J. and Virginia E. Pellegrini Trust is the owner of the real property located near the corner of Park Avenue and Halleck Streets in Emeryville, California with Assessors Parcel Number 049-1036-002-00 and business address of 4245 Halleck Street, which consists of a large commercial building and various tenant spaces ("the Property"). Mario J. and Virginia E. Pellegrini owned the property prior to transferring it to the Trust.

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45. On or about February 9, 1993, John Pellegrini & Virginia Pellegrini ("Lessors") and Mark J. Ng and Technichem, Inc. ("Lessees") entered into a Standard Industrial Lease – Multi Tenant (hereafter "the 1993 Lease"), for a term of seven years, commencing on March 1, 1993 and ending on February 2000 [Section 3.1 of 1993 Lease] with an option to extend the term of the lease for an additional seven years commencing when the prior term expired ["1993 Option to Extend Addendum"].

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46. Technichem and Mark J. Ng agreed in the 1993 Lease:

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regulations, orders, covenants and restrictions of record, and requirements of any fire insurance underwriters or rating bureaus, during the term of Lessee's occupation and use

"to promptly comply with all applicable statues, ordinances, rules,

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of the leased premises and of common areas on the Property" [Section 6.2(b) of the

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1993 Lease];

"to not commit any waste upon the leased premises or any nuisance or other act or thing which may disturb the quiet enjoyment of any occupant of the leased premises" [Section 6.2(b) of the 1993 Lease]; and

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- "to accept the leased premises in its existing condition subject to all applicable zoning, municipal, county and state laws, ordinances and regulations governing and regulating the use of the premises and any covenants or restrictions of record" [Section 6.3(b) of the 1993 Lease];
- "to keep in good order, condition and repair the leased premises and every part thereof" [Section 7.2(a) of the 1993 Lease];
- "to surrender the premises upon termination of the lease in the same condition as received and to repair any damage to the premises occasioned by the installation or removal of Lessee's trade fixtures, alterations, furnishings and equipment" [Section 7.2(c) of the 1993 Lease];
- "not to make any changes or alterations to the exteriors of the premises or the exterior of the building located on the premises without Lessor's prior written consent" [Section 7.3 of the 1993 Lease];
- "to obtain and keep in force during the term of the lease a policy of Combined Single Limit Bodily Injury and Property Damage insurance insuring Lessor against any liability arising out of the use, occupancy or maintenance of the premises in an amount not less than \$500,000 per occurrence to insure performance by Lessee of its indemnity obligations" [Section 8.1 of the 1993 Lease]; and
- "indemnify and hold harmless Lessor from and against any and all claims arising from Lessee's use of the Property, or from the conduct of Lessee's business or from any activity, work or things done, permitted or suffered by Lessee in or about the [Property] or elsewhere" [Section 8.7 of the 1993 Lease].
- The 1993 lease included a provision that "Lessor shall not be liable for any 47. damages arising from any act or negligence of any other lessee, occupant or user of the [Property], nor from the failure of Lessor to enforce the provisions of any other lease of the [Property]" [Section 8.8 of the 1993 Lease] and that "Lessor is to be free from all liability and claims for damages from any cause" [Section 8.7 of the 1993 Lease].

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failing to comply with the requirements for liability insurance, and

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hazardous substances had occurred on the Property, that Technichem, Inc. and Mark Ng

had been cited for hazardous waste violations, that Technichem, Inc. and Mark No.

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entered into a Stipulated Judgment, and that Defendants had failed to obtain and operate under a standardized permit.

- 58. On or about March 14, 2005, Plaintiffs' attorney Michael Lamphere notified Technichem, Inc. and Mark Ng, that Technichem, Inc. and Mark Ng owed back rent from January 2005 to March 2005 in the amount of \$5,097.50 each month, totaling \$13,195, and requested that Technichem, Inc. and Mark Ng pay its late rent immediately or provide a payment schedule.
- 59. On or about March 15, 2005, Technichem, Inc. and Mark Ng notified Plaintiffs that Technichem, Inc. and Mark Ng retained the services of Clayton Group Services, Inc., an environmental engineering firm, to facilitate Technichem, Inc. and Mark Ng's regulatory compliance for site closure. Mark Ng told Michael Lamphere that he believed Mr. Pellegrini agreed to forego any rent payments from Technichem, Inc. and Mark Ng.
- 60. On or about March 22, 2005, Plaintiffs' attorney Michael Lamphere notified Technichem, Inc. and Mark Ng that Mr. Pellegrini required payment of the outstanding rent for January, February, and March 2005 in full and never agreed to forego any rent payments by Technichem, Inc. and Mark Ng. Mr. Lamphere also notified Mark Ng that Technichem, Inc. and Mark Ng remained responsible for monthly rent until DTSC and the City of Emeryville provided final closure and clearance of the Technichem facility.
- 61. In or about April 2005, Plaintiffs retained PES Environmental, Inc. ("PES") to monitor the closure activities of Technichem, Inc. facility.
- 62. Technichem, Inc., Mark Ng, and Stephen Tung ceased business operations at the Property in or around May 2005, and moved the business to Hayward, California.
- 63. In or about June 2005, Plaintiffs discovered for the first time that there was soil and groundwater contamination at, on, and under the Property, when PES reported the findings of Clayton Group Services, Inc.'s May 27, 2005 "Facility Closure Passive Soil Gas Investigation Work Plan."

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- 65. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and on that basis allege, that during Technichem, Inc., Mark Ng, and Stephen Tung's period of occupancy and operation, they caused the discharge, dispersal, and release of hazardous substances, including but not limited to perchloroethylene ("PCE") and degradation products such as trichloroethylene ("TCE"), dichloroethane 1,1 and 1,2 and dichloroethene 1,1 and 1,2 ("cis-1,2-DCE"), vinyl chloride (hereinafter, collectively, "Hazardous Substances") into soil and groundwater at, on, near, and under the Property.
- 66. Technichem, Inc., Mark Ng, and Stephen Tung knew, at the time of their occupancy of the Property, that hazardous wastes and substances from its solvent recycling operations had been disposed on or around the Property and had not been cleaned up.
- 67. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and on that basis allege, that solid and hazardous wastes handled and disposed of at the Property have contaminated the soil and groundwater at, under, on, or near the Property, which may present an imminent and substantial endangerment to health or the environment.
- 68. Throughout Technichem, Inc.'s tenancy, and continuing until June 2005, Plaintiffs had no knowledge of any contamination on the Property.
- 69. On or about August 23, 2005, Technichem, Inc. and Mark Ng told Plaintiffs' attorney Michael Lamphere and Mr. Pellegrini that they had only \$15,000 in assets and risked bankruptcy if Technichem, Inc. and Mark Ng proceeded with the facility closure work required by DTSC.

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27 28 to both Mr. Lamphere and Mr. Pellegrini that the cost of site characterization and facility closure was estimated to be less than \$60,000.

71. On or about January 6, 2006, Technichem, Inc. and Mark Ng notified

On or about September 2005, Technichem, Inc. and Mark Ng represented

- Plaintiffs and DTSC that Technichem, Inc. lacked the financial resources to undertake any facility closure activities, and consequently, Technichem, Inc. and Mark Ng requested that Plaintiffs assume closure and corrective action obligations associated with the closure of the Technichem, Inc. facility.
- 72. On or about January 30, 2006, DTSC agreed to allow Plaintiffs to accept complete control and obligation of the closure and corrective action process associated with closure of the Technichem, Inc. facility.
- 73. On or about January 2006, Plaintiffs, in reliance of Technichem, Inc. and Mark Ng's assurances and cost estimates, began to expend their own resources to assist in Technichem, Inc.'s facility closure in order to expedite the sale of the Property to a prospective buyer. However, due to the extent of contamination on the Property and the failure of Technichem, Inc. and Mark Ng to complete the facility closure, Plaintiffs could not complete the sale of the Property.
- 74. From January 2006 to present, Plaintiffs expressly informed Technichem, Inc. and Mark Ng that they remained responsible for any and all Plaintiffs' costs expended to assist in facility closure, as well as payment for back rent owed, and damages incurred for loss of use of the Property until DTSC approved the facility closure.
- 75. Plaintiffs never conducted any solvent-related operations at the Property and never stored, sold, or used PCE at the Property.
- 76. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and on that basis allege, that during their period of occupancy and operation Defendants were involved in the business of purchasing, using, producing, generating, processing, storing, releasing, discharging, disposing of, and venting Hazardous Substances. As such, Defendants had superior knowledge regarding the attributes and propensities of the Hazardous Substances and

- that Hazardous Substances would, harm the soil, water, and environment;
- failing to comply with laws, quidelines, and safety practices applicable to generating, emitting, releasing, discharging, storing, processing and venting Hazardous Substances, failing to establish and maintain adequate pollution control technologies to prevent, reduce, and/or control discharges of Hazardous Substances;
- failing to timely and adequately repair equipment and toxic chemical storage and disposal containers to prevent, reduce and/or control emissions and discharges of Hazardous Substances;
- failing to report and/or disclose releases, leaks, and spills, whether accidental, negligent or intentional, but which were known to Defendants;
- failing to accurately report and/or disclose to Plaintiffs and the public the amounts of discharges, leaks and spills;

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- failing to establish and maintain safety practices and procedures to protect human health and the environment from being harmed by Hazardous Substances released by Defendants; and
- failing to implement measures to prevent exposure to humans knowing that such releases had happened in the past.
- 78. Plaintiffs have had to perform investigation and cleanup activities, and to retain and pay consultants and attorneys for that purpose, in accordance with directives from the DTSC. Those activities, costs, and fees will continue after the filing of this Complaint.
- 79. Hazardous Substances, including solid and hazardous wastes, handled, stored, and disposed of at the Property have contaminated the soil and groundwater at the Property, and may be migrating to adjacent properties.
- 80. Plaintiffs discovered contamination at the Property no earlier than June 2005, and could not have made the discovery of the contamination earlier than June 2005 despite reasonable diligence because Defendants conspired to continue the nuisance and to conceal its existence from Plaintiffs.
- 81. DTSC identified Technichem, Inc., Plaintiffs, and Zurich Insurance Company as responsible parties for the contamination at the Property in letters dated April 17, 2007 and February 22, 2008.
- Each of the Defendants is a "person" as defined in CERCLA § 101(21), 42 82. U.S.C. § 9601(21), and in California Health and Safety Code § 25319 and has by contract, agreement, or otherwise, arranged for disposal or treatment, or arranged with a transporter for transport for disposal or treatment at the Property, of hazardous substances as defined in CERCLA § 101(14), 42 U.S.C. § 9601 (14), and in Health and Safety Code §§ 25316 and 25317. Moreover, some or all of the Defendants accepted hazardous substances for transport to and from the Property by operating waste disposal services which collected waste within their jurisdictions. All of the hazardous substances described herein were delivered to and stored, treated or disposed of at the Property.

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- 84. There have been actual or threatened "releases" of hazardous substances from the Site, within the meaning of CERCLA § 101(22), 42 U.S.C. § 9601(22), and Health and Safety code §§ 25320 and 25321.
- 85. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and on that basis allege, that
 Defendants caused contamination by not properly handling, storing, or disposing of those
 hazardous substances. The hazardous substances which the Defendants arranged for
 disposal or treatment or arranged to have transported to or from the Site for treatment
 and disposal were released, or threatened to be released, into the environment.
- 86. Each Defendant is or may be liable to Plaintiffs, for all or portion of the costs incurred and to be incurred by Plaintiffs related to the contamination.
- 87. An actual controversy has arisen and now exists between Defendants and Plaintiffs in that Plaintiffs contend, and Defendants deny, that: (a) as between Defendants and Plaintiffs, responsibility for the damages claimed by Plaintiffs rests entirely with Defendants; and (b) as a result, Defendants are obligated to fully indemnify Plaintiffs for any sums that Plaintiffs have expended in prosecuting this action and defending against third party claims for investigation and cleanup of the Property, including but not limited to any amount Plaintiffs may pay due to any costs, damages, or judgments related to the contamination caused by Defendants.
- 88. As a result of Defendants' acts and omissions, Plaintiffs have been and will be damaged as follows:
- (a) Plaintiffs have incurred substantial expenses of approximately over \$225,000 as of April 3, 2008, and will continue to expend additional sums, in an exact

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amount to be proved at trial, including consultants' and attorneys' fees, associated with
investigating, monitoring, assessing and evaluating soil and groundwater contamination
on, under and around the Property;
(b) DTSC has named Plaintiffs as responsible parties, due to Plaintiffs'
ownership of the Property. DTSC intends to require further investigation, remediation
and monitoring of environmental contamination on the Property, which will cause Plaintiff
to incur substantial additional costs to investigate, remediate, monitor and report on
environmental contamination at the Property until facility closure is achieved;
(c) Plaintiffs will incur substantial additional costs to remove the
contamination from the Property in order to receive site closure and sell the property;
(d) Plaintiffs' use of the Property has been limited and restricted by
virtue of the contamination, because the contamination precludes developing the
Property for its highest and best use, and because Plaintiffs' use of the Property may be

- ing the operty may be restricted in the future absent adequate remediation, causing damage to Plaintiffs in amounts to be proved at trial;
- the value of Plaintiffs' Property has been diminished by the (e) contamination, with the specific amount to be proved at trial, in that, among other things, it has significantly delayed Plaintiffs' ability to sell or lease the Property from 2005 to a date as yet unknown;
- (f) Plaintiffs have incurred and will continue to incur attorneys' fees, costs and expenses in prosecuting this action, and to respond to and defend against governmental agency administrative actions; and
- Plaintiffs may be required to defend future actions and (g) administrative proceedings arising directly or indirectly from Defendants' contamination of the Property.
- 89. By virtue of the above-described acts and omissions of Defendants, Plaintiffs (a) will incur response costs, including attorneys' fees, due to the contamination caused by Defendants at the Property, (b) anticipate that they will be required to expend

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additional sums to achieve regulatory compliance and site closure, and (c) have suffered a negative impact on their real property value resulting in compensable damages for diminution in its property value. As a result of the foregoing, Plaintiffs have been and will be damaged in an amount which will be proven at trial.

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FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

(Injunctive Relief and Attorneys' Fees Under RCRA § 7002(a)(1)(A) – All Defendants)

- 90. Plaintiffs reallege paragraphs 1 through 89 and incorporate them by reference.
- 91. RCRA section 7002(a), 42 U.S.C. § 6972(a), provides that any person may commence a civil action "against any person . . . who is alleged to be in violation of any permit, standard, regulation, condition, requirement, prohibition, or order which has become effective pursuant to this chapter."
- 92. Plaintiffs, each of them, is a person within the meaning of RCRA section 1004(15), 42 U.S.C. § 6903(15).
- 93. Defendants, each of them, is a "person" within the meaning of RCRA section 1004(15), 42 U.S.C. § 6903(15).
- California has been and is authorized by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to operate its hazardous waste control laws and regulations pursuant to RCRA. Pursuant to Section 3006(d) of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 6926(d), "Any action taken by a State under a hazardous waste program authorized under this section shall have the same force and effect as action taken by the Administration under this subchapter."
- 95. Plaintiffs allege that Defendants are in violation of a permit, standard, regulation, condition, requirement, prohibition, or order which has become effective under RCRA, including violations of subchapter III of RCRA (including, but not limited to, 42 U.S.C. §§ 6922, 6923, 6924, 6925 and 6934).
- 96. Prior to filing this action, Plaintiffs gave notice pursuant to RCRA § 7002(b)(1)(A), 42 U.S.C. § 6972(b)(1)(A) and 40 C.F.R. § 254.1 to the Administrator of

1	the United States Environmental Protection Agency ("U.S. EPA"), Region IX,
2	Administrator of the U.S. EPA, the United States Attorney General, the Director of the
3	California Department of Toxic Substance Control, and Defendants, informing them of
4	the alleged violations and of Plaintiffs' intent to bring this suit against Defendants. This
5	action is authorized to be brought "immediately after such notification" pursuant to 42
6	U.S.C. § 6972(b)(1)(A).
7	97. Plaintiffs seek injunctive relief under RCRA, ordering Defendants to
8	investigate, abate and remediate the endangerment posed by the contamination, and to
9	comply, at their expense, with any and all regulatory agencies' demands regarding the
10	contamination.
11	98. Pursuant to 42 U.S.C § 6972(e), Plaintiffs seek an award of the costs of this
12	litigation including but not limited to reasonable attorneys' fees and experts' fees, and
13	including but not limited to similar fees to monitor Defendants' compliance with any
14	orders or judgments issued by this Court.
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16	SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION
17	(Injunctive Relief and Attorneys' Fees Under RCRA § 7002(a)(1)(B) – All Defendants)
18	99. Plaintiffs reallege paragraphs 1 through 98 and incorporate them by
19	reference.
20	100. RCRA section 7002(a), 42 U.S.C. § 6972(a), provides as follows:
21	"(a) any person may commence a civil action on this behalf (1)
22	(B) against any person who has contributed or who is contributing to the past or present handling, storage, treatment,
23	transportation, or disposal of any solid or hazardous waste which may present an imminent and substantial endangerment to health o
24	the environment "
25	101. Defendants have contributed and/or are contributing to the handling,
26	storage, treatment, transportation and/or disposal of "solid or hazardous wastes" within
27	the meaning of RCRA sections 1004(27) and 1004(5), 42 U.S.C. §§ 6903(27) and

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THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION

(Cost Recovery under CERCLA – All Defendants)

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- 107. CERCLA Section 107(a), 42 U.S.C. § 9607(a), provides as follows:
 - (2) any person who at the time of disposal of any hazardous substances owned or operated any facility at which such hazardous substances were disposed of, [or]
 - (3) any person who . . . arranged for disposal or treatment . . . of hazardous substances . . . at any facility
 - (4) shall be liable for -
 - (B) any other necessary costs of response incurred by any other person consistent with the national contingency plan. . . .
- 108. A "release" of hazardous substances within the meaning of CERCLA Section 101(22), 42 U.S.C. § 9601(22), occurred at the Property.
- 109. Chemicals released at the Property are "hazardous substances" within the meaning of CERCLA Section 101(14), 42 U.S.C. §9601(14).
- 110. The Property is a "facility" within the meaning of CERCLA Section 101(9), 42 U.S.C. § 9601(9).
- 111. As a result of the "release" of "hazardous substances," Plaintiffs have conducted and are conducting a "response" within the meaning of CERCLA Section 101(25), 42 U.S.C. § 9601(25), and have incurred and will incur response costs.
- Defendants are liable under CERCLA § 107(a)(2), (3) and (4), 42 U.S.C. 112. § 9607(a)(2),(3) and (4) as the operators of the Property "at the time of disposal," as persons who "arranged for disposal" of CERCLA hazardous substances on the Property, and as persons who transported hazardous substances to and from the Property. Each Defendant therefore is a "covered person," liable for any and all costs, damages, and other relief under 42 U.S.C. § 9607(a).
- Plaintiffs have incurred, and will continue to incur, substantial costs 113. consistent with the National Contingency Plan or pursuant to federal and/or state

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simply because they are the current owners and operators of the Property on which

If the Court concludes that Plaintiffs are liable under CERCLA § 107(a)

1	1 Defendants released nazardous substances, or because they owned or c	perated the
2	2 Property at the time of disposal of hazardous substances thereon, then	Plaintiffs are
3	3 entitled to contribution under CERCLA § 113, 42 U.S.C. § 9613, from De	fendants.
4	4 121. Plaintiffs have incurred, and likely will continue to incur, su	ıbstantial costs
5	5 consistent with the National Contingency Plan to investigate, remove or	remediate
6	6 hazardous substances found in soils and groundwater at the Property.	
7	7 122. Plaintiffs request that judgment be entered in favor of Plai	ntiffs and against
8	8 Defendants pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 9613 for the response costs that Pla	intiffs have
9	9 incurred to investigate and/or remediate hazardous substances at the Pi	roperty.
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11	11 FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION	
12	12 (Declaratory Judgment under CERCLA – All Defendants	<i>;)</i>
13	13 123. Plaintiffs reallege paragraphs 1 through 122, and incorpora	ate them by
14	14 reference.	
15	15 124. CERCLA Section 113(g)(2), 42 U.S.C. § 9613(g)(2), provid	es that in an
16	action to recover costs, "the court shall enter a declaratory judgment or	ı liability for
17	17 response costs or damages that will be binding on any subsequent action	on or actions to
18	18 recover further response costs or damages."	
19	19 125. This action is a cost-recovery action of the type described	in CERCLA
20	Section 113(g)(2), 42 U.S.C. § 9613(g)(2).	
21	21 126. Plaintiffs will incur additional response costs consistent wit	th the National
22	Contingency Plan.	
23	23 127. An actual controversy presently exists between Plaintiffs a	nd Defendants.
24	128. Plaintiffs desire a determination of the respective rights, d	uties, and
25	25 liabilities of Plaintiffs and Defendants for future response costs and dam	ages. Plaintiffs
26	are entitled to declaratory relief under 42 U.S.C. Sections 9607 and 9613, establishing	
27	the liability of Defendants for such response costs for the purposes of the	nis and any
28	subsequent action or actions to recover further response costs. According	ingly, Plaintiffs

request that judgment be entered in favor of Plaintiffs and against Defendants as set

forth below. 2

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SIXTH CAUSE OF ACTION

(Contribution Under Hazardous Substance Account Act – All Defendants)

- 129. Plaintiffs incorporate the allegations of paragraphs 1 through 128 above, and incorporate those paragraphs by reference.
- 130. The California Hazardous Substance Account Act ("HSAA") codified at California Health & Safety Code §§ 25300 through 25395.45, states, in relevant part, at § 25363(e):

Any person who has incurred removal or remedial action costs in accordance with this chapter or the federal act [defined as the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§9601, et sea.)] may seek contribution or indemnity from any person who is liable pursuant to this chapter...

- Plaintiffs, each of them, is a "person" who has incurred or will incur 131. removal and remedial action costs in accordance with Chapter 6.8 of the HSAA and with the federal act, within the meaning of HSAA § 25319.
- 132. Each Defendant is a "person who is liable" for removal and remedial action costs incurred by Plaintiffs within the meaning of HSAA §§ 25319 and 25323.5.
- 133. The contaminants released or discharged by Defendants are "hazardous" substances" within the meaning of HSAA § 25316, and the federal act.
 - 134. The Property is a "site" within the meaning of HSAA § 25323.9.
- 135. The costs incurred by Plaintiffs to investigate and remediate hazardous substances at the Property have been incurred for "removal" or "remedial" actions within the meaning of HSAA §§ 25322 and 25323.
- 136. All removal and remedial costs incurred, and to be incurred, by Plaintiffs at the Property are necessary costs of response that are consistent with HSAA § 25356.1.

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costs for the purposes of this and any subsequent action or actions to recover further

1	response costs. Accordingly, Plaintiffs request that judgment be entered in favor of
2	Plaintiffs and against Defendants as set forth below.
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4	EIGHTH CAUSE OF ACTION
5	(Contribution – Against All Defendants)
6	145. Plaintiffs incorporate the allegations of paragraphs 1 through 144, inclusive,
7	of these causes of action by this reference as though fully set forth herein.
8	146. As a direct and proximate result of the releases of Hazardous Substances
9	into the environment, as alleged above, Plaintiffs have incurred and will incur response
10	costs, beyond their share, for investigation and cleanup of the alleged contamination.
11	147. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and on that basis allege, that the
12	conduct of Defendants was the proximate cause of the damages which Plaintiffs have
13	incurred because of claims from third parties such as the DTSC.
14	148. Under Section 1432 of the California Civil Code (which provides in pertinent
15	part, "a party to a joint and several obligation, who satisfies more than his share of
16	the claim against all, may require a proportionate contribution from all the parties joined
17	with him"), and under general equitable principles and rules governing this action,
18	Plaintiffs are entitled to contribution from Defendants for their share of the response
19	costs and damages paid and to be paid by Plaintiffs.
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21	NINTH CAUSE OF ACTION
22	(Breach of Contract/Breach of Lease – Against Technichem, Inc. and Mark Ng only)
23	149. Plaintiffs reallege and incorporate herein by reference each and every
24	allegation set forth in Paragraphs 1 through 148 as though fully set forth herein.
25	150. Plaintiffs are informed and believe and, upon such information and belief,
26	allege that Defendants Technichem, In. and Mark Ng entered into contracts and leases to
27	conduct business operations on the Property.

151. Plaintiffs have performed all of their obligations in said agreements.

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Plaintiffs are informed and believe and, upon such information and belief, 152. allege that Defendants Technichem, Inc. and Mark Ng have not performed their contractual obligations and duties expressly identified in their contracts with Plaintiffs.

- 153. As a direct and proximate result of the breach of contractual duties by Defendants Technichem, Inc. and Mark Ng, Plaintiffs have sustained damages in a sum presently unascertained, but in an amount to be shown according to proof at trial.
- Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and on such basis allege, that these damages include but are not limited to costs incurred by Plaintiffs to respond to the claims of regulatory agencies, including the DTSC, to make insurance demands and claims, to begin facility closure and investigate environmental contamination at the Property, rent owed to Plaintiffs for Defendants' occupancy of the Property, loss of use damages from May 2005 through the present, and continuing, due to Plaintiffs' inability to rent, lease or sell the Property because of Defendant's contamination, and loss associated with diminution in value of the Property. Plaintiffs are continuing to be damaged, and will have to spend additional sums.
- Plaintiffs are informed and believe and, upon such information and belief, allege that Plaintiffs' damages are directly and proximately caused and contributed to by the sole fault and/or negligence and/or strict liability or other actionable conduct of Defendants Technichem, Inc. and Mark Ng.
 - Plaintiffs pray for judgment as hereinafter set forth. 156.

TENTH CAUSE OF ACTION

(Contractual Indemnity – Against Technichem, Inc. and Mark Ng only)

- Plaintiffs reallege and incorporate the allegations of paragraphs 1 through 156, inclusive, of these causes of action by this reference as though fully set forth herein.
- Defendants Technichem, Inc., and Mark Ng (collectively, the "Lessee"), entered into written contracts (the Leases) with Plaintiffs (collectively, the "Lessor"), which expressly stated that:

- 159. Defendant Mark J. Ng personally guaranteed the obligations of said Lessee and further agreed "to indemnify and hold Lessor harmless from any and all liabilities and expenses of collection against said Lessee, including attorneys' fees and costs."
- Plaintiffs have performed and satisfied all the conditions precedent to the
- Plaintiffs are informed and believe and, upon such information and belief, allege that Defendants Technichem, Inc. and Mark Ng have not performed their contractual obligations and duties expressly identified in their contracts with Plaintiffs.
- 162. Plaintiffs are informed and believe and, upon such information and belief, allege that Plaintiffs' damages are directly and proximately caused and contributed to by the sole fault, and/or negligence, and/or strict liability and/or other actionable conduct of Defendants Technichem, Inc. and Mark Ng, in breaching such terms of their agreements
- Plaintiffs are entitled to indemnity from Defendant Technichem, Inc. and Mark Ng as expressly provided by contract for all costs incurred, and to be incurred, by Plaintiffs in connection with the contamination at and emanating from the Property, including attorneys' fees.

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ELEVENTH CAUSE OF ACTION

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(Equitable Indemnity and Recovery of Attorneys' Fees under CCP 1021.6

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Against All Defendants)

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Plaintiffs reallege and incorporate the allegations of paragraphs 1 through 164. 163, inclusive, of these causes of action by this reference as though fully set forth herein.

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Plaintiffs never used PCE or any other hazardous substances at the Property, and never stored, sold, or used PCE or other hazardous substances at the

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Property.

Defendants, through their acts and omissions, have discharged and released hazardous substances at the Property, and have refused to take the necessary

action to investigate and clean up those substances and prevent their migration in the

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environment, despite a legal obligation to do so.

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Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and upon such basis allege, that any 167. environmental contamination at the Property relates solely to activities of Defendants and that Defendants are responsible as a matter of equity.

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168. Plaintiffs have notified (and intend this complaint to be additional notification) Defendants by tendering to Defendants the obligation to defend Plaintiffs from claims by DTSC and others, pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure Section 1021.6. As a result of Defendants' conduct and failure to defend, Plaintiffs have been required to respond to the DTSC and may be required to defend against additional actions brought by third parties related to the contamination for which Defendants are solely responsible. Plaintiffs again hereby demand defense and indemnity from

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Defendants. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and thereon allege, that Defendants

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refused, and continue to refuse, said tender of defense by Plaintiffs.

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Plaintiffs have incurred, and will continue to incur, response and defense costs relating to Hazardous Substances released by Defendants on the Property.

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170. Plaintiffs' costs have been necessary to address contamination proximately caused by the acts and omissions of Defendants.

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transport, handling, storage, treatment, use and disposal of hazardous substances. Such release or threatened release is the type of occurrence which the aforementioned legal requirements are designed to prevent.

- 180. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and on that basis allege, that Defendants had knowledge or reasonable cause to believe that a release or threatened release of a hazardous substance has come or will come to be located on or beneath the Property in amounts required to be reported to a state or local agency pursuant to law, and Defendants knowingly and willfully did not give Plaintiffs timely and adequate written notice, if any, of the release or threatened release or of that condition to Plaintiffs.
- Plaintiffs are among the class of persons which such legal requirements were designed and intended to protect.
- 182. The violations by Defendants of those legal requirements proximately caused harm to Plaintiffs, who have been required to respond to said release and threatened release of hazardous substances at the Property, and who will be required to continue to respond to them in the foreseeable future. As a result of Defendants' actions, Plaintiffs are entitled to damages according to proof at trial.
- 183. The foregoing acts and omissions of Defendants violate various statutory provisions, including but not limited to, California Health and Safety Code §§ 25359, et. seq.; California Health and Safety Code §§ 25249.5 et seq.; California Health and Safety Code §§ 25100 et seq.; Health & Safety Code §§ 25189(c)-(d); California Water Code §§ 13000 et. seq.; and Fish & Game Code §§ 5650, et. seq.
- Defendants failed to comply with the state law as detailed above. Plaintiffs have sustained injury as a result of Defendants' negligent conduct, including investigative costs, attorney's fees, and other costs, as described herein. As a further direct and proximate cause of the negligence per se by Defendants, Plaintiffs have suffered damages as previously described herein, including other consequential, incidental, and general damages to be proven at trial.

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interfere with the comfortable enjoyment of life and property. The conditions caused by

Defendants constitute a nuisance within the meaning of California Civil Code § 3479.

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21 22 197, inclusive, of these causes of action by this reference as though fully set forth herein.

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Such intrusion was not permitted.

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Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and on that basis allege, that this 201. intrusion was intentional, negligent, or resulted from ultra hazardous conduct.

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1	202. Defendants' trespass directly and proximately caused Plaintiffs' damages,		
2	including harm to property and economic interests.		
3	203. Consequently, Plaintiffs are entitled to damages according to proof at trial.		
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5	SEVENTEENTH CAUSE OF ACTION		
6	(Waste – Against All Defendants)		
7	204. Plaintiffs reallege and incorporate the allegations of paragraphs 1 through		
8	203, inclusive, of these causes of action by this reference as though fully set forth herein		
9	205. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and on that basis allege, that		
10	Defendants committed waste at and upon the Property by contaminating the property		
11	with Hazardous Substances and not remediating the contamination.		
12	206. As a direct and proximate result of the above waste committed by		
13	Defendants, Plaintiffs have been damaged in an amount to be proven at trial for loss of		
14	use of the Property and inability to lease or sell the Property at the reasonable rental		
15	value of the Property.		
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17	EIGHTEENTH CAUSE OF ACTION		
18	(Fraud/Constructive Fraud – Against Technichem, Inc, Mark Ng, and Stephen Tung only,		
19	207. Plaintiffs reallege and incorporate by reference the allegations of		
20	paragraphs 1 through 206 as though fully set forth herein.		
21	208. Pursuant to various leases with Plaintiffs, a stipulated judgment with DTSC,		
22	and environmental laws and regulations, Defendants knew that they were obligated to		
23	comply with environmental laws and regulations, investigate site conditions, conduct		
24	remedial activities, and obtain regulatory closure of the facility located on the Property.		
25	209. Plaintiffs are informed and believe and, upon such information and belief,		
26	allege that: from the beginning of Defendants' tenancy until 2005, Defendants		
27	represented to Plaintiffs that Defendants' operations and activities on the Property		
28	complied with environmental laws and regulations; Defendants failed to notify Plaintiffs		

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of any discharges or releases of hazardous substances, in order to induce Plaintiffs to enter into and to refrain from terminating these written leases and amendments for the continued tenancy on the site of Defendants Technichem Inc. and Mark Ng.

- Plaintiffs are informed and believe and, upon such information and belief, allege that Defendants Technichem Inc. and Mark Ng represented to Plaintiffs that no defaults or breaches existed in their performance of the terms, covenants, and conditions of their lease agreements with Plaintiffs, including but not limited to:
- Technichem Inc. and Mark Ng had complied with laws, guidelines, and safety practices applicable to generating, emitting, releasing, discharging, storing, processing and venting of hazardous substances,
- Technichem Inc. and Mark Ng had repaired and maintained the leased premises, the fixtures and appurtenances in good order and repair and in clean and wholesome, condition, in compliance with all laws and ordinances,
- Technichem Inc. and Mark Ng had used and occupied the leased premises in accordance with all appropriate federal, state, county and city laws, ordinances, or regulations; and
- Technichem Inc. and Mark Ng had not committed any waste upon the leased premises or any nuisance or misuse of the leased premises.
- Plaintiffs are informed and believe and, upon such information and belief, allege that these representations were made by Technichem Inc. and Mark Ng to induce Plaintiffs to continue contracting for the lease of Property, and, in reliance upon those representations, Plaintiffs entered into a lease agreement and continued to lease the Property to Defendants Technichem Inc. and Mark Ng.
- 212. Plaintiffs are informed and believe and, upon such information and belief, allege that Defendants Technichem Inc. and Mark Ng knowingly and willfully made these representations with no reasonable grounds for believing them to be true, and that by or before January 6, 2006, Defendants ceased its investigative work at the Property,

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purposefully failing to comply with regulatory directives for additional investigation of the contamination at the Property, and knowingly delaying remediation of the Property.

- Plaintiffs reasonably relied on Defendants' actions and representations and had no knowledge of any actual or potential contamination to the Property from Defendants' operations until January 2006. In or about January 2006, Plaintiffs discovered that the representations made by Defendants were in fact false, in that Defendants were not competently pursuing site closure. Plaintiffs are informed and believe and, upon such information and belief, allege that Defendants purposefully or negligently exacerbated the contamination at the Property due to their repeated delays in responding to the regulatory directives.
- 214. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and on that basis allege, that Defendants failed to comply with minimum commercial, professional and regulatory standards, misled Plaintiffs into believing their operations and activities were in compliance with the law and with the terms of the lease, misrepresented Defendants' ability to complete facility closure and the cost of facility closure, and concealed from Plaintiffs their: (a) practices for the disposal of hazardous substances, (b) failure to maintain its equipment (and the premises and fixtures and appurtenances thereto) to minimize or prevent leaks or spills of PCE or other hazardous materials, and (c) intent to cease its voluntary investigative and cleanup efforts under the oversight of DTSC.
- Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and on that basis allege, that 215. Defendants operated their solvent recycling business knowing of the discharge of hazardous substances into the environment, or the actions that resulted in the discharge, and had the legal ability to prevent, minimize, mitigate, clean up, abate, investigate and/or otherwise respond to the discharge.
- Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and on that basis allege, Defendants' acts or omissions have proximately caused Plaintiffs' damages.

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- 217. Defendants, in connection with their generation, release, discharge, handling, collection, storage, processing, and/or disposal of the Hazardous Substances, have engaged in a pattern of negligent, oppressive, and malicious behavior.
- Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and on that basis allege, that (although Defendants have known about this contamination and the fact that such contamination may move to adjacent properties), Defendants have concealed from Plaintiffs, the releases of hazardous substances, the violations of environmental laws and regulations, DTSC's enforcement action against Technichem, Inc. and Mark Ng for such violations, and Defendants' intent to abandon all investigation and remediation efforts from Plaintiffs.
- 219. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and on that basis allege, that Defendants acted wrongfully and/or negligently in (a) failing to meet commercial or professional standards, (b) failing to comply with environmental laws and regulations, (c) contaminating the Property, and (d) ceasing in bad faith its efforts to investigate and clean up the Property under the oversight of DTSC.
- By virtue of the relationship existing between Defendants and Plaintiffs, 220. Defendants owed a fiduciary duty to Plaintiffs, which was breached by the false representations made to Plaintiffs by Defendants.
- 221. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' failure to comply with the terms of the lease and with regulatory directives, and their concealment from Plaintiffs of such failure, Plaintiffs have sustained damages, and are continuing to be damaged, in a sum presently unascertained, but in an amount to be shown according to proof at the time of trial.
 - 222. Plaintiffs pray for judgment as hereinafter set forth.

NINETEENTH CAUSE OF ACTION

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(Business & Professions Code § 17200 –

against Technichem, Inc, Mark Ng, and Stephen Tung only)

- 223. Plaintiffs reallege and incorporate the allegations of paragraphs 1 through 222, inclusive, of these causes of action by this reference as though fully set forth herein.
- 224. California Business & Professions Code § 17200 defines unfair competition to include any "... unlawful, unfair or fraudulent" business act or practice.
- 225. Plaintiffs are informed and believes, and on that basis alleges, that Technichem, Inc. and Mark J. Ng and Stephen S. Tung have engaged, and continues to engage, in unlawful and unfair business practices within the meaning of California Business & Professions Code § 17200 through their discharges of solid and hazardous wastes, hazardous substances, and contaminants at the Property, failure to mitigate the contamination, and concealment of regulatory and statutory violations as alleged herein.
- 226. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and on that basis allege, that during Technichem's Inc.'s business operations on the Property, Technichem, Inc., Mark Ng, and Stephen Tung were involved in the business of purchasing, using, producing, generating, processing, storing, releasing, discharging, disposing of, and venting Hazardous Substances. As such, Technichem, Inc., Mark Ng, and Stephen Tung had superior knowledge regarding the attributes and propensities of the Hazardous Substances and their effects on the environment and human health. Because Technichem, Inc., Mark Ng, and Stephen Tung have such superior knowledge with respect to their own business processes and the Hazardous Substances it produced, generated, emitted, released, discharged, and vented, Defendants had and continue to have an obligation to disclose to Plaintiffs and the public accurate, reliable and completely truthful information about the dangers and consequences of exposure to such Hazardous Substances. Further, Defendants had and continue to have an obligation not to conduct their business activities in an oppressive and malicious manner.

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227. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and on that basis allege, that by
violating Health and Safety Code section 25359.7(b)(which protects landlords by
obligating a lessee who knows or has reasonable cause to believe that any release of a
nazardous substance has come or will come to be located on or beneath that real
property to provide written notice of that condition to the lessor), Defendants
Technichem, Inc. and Mark Ng have committed an unlawful business act and therefore
violated § 17200.

- 228. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and on that basis allege, that Defendants' knowing and willful conduct leading to the release or threatened release of hazardous substances at the Property and Defendants' purposeful failure to mitigate (as required by the Water Code) the contamination violated applicable legal requirements governing the transport, handling, storage, treatment, use and disposal of solid and hazardous wastes and Hazardous Substances, which is the type of conduct that Business and Profession Code section 17200 et seg. is designed to prevent.
- 229. Business and Professions Code section 17204 permits "any person who has suffered injury in fact and has lost money or property as a result of such unfair competition" to bring an action on behalf of itself, its members, or the general public.
- Plaintiffs have an ownership interest in the property that Defendants Technichem, Inc. and Mark Ng have leased. Plaintiffs have suffered injury in fact and have lost money and property value as a result of the unlawful business practices, because Plaintiffs are unable to sell the Property for full market value or lease the Property for full rental value. Thus, Plaintiffs have standing to bring this claim because they are among the class of persons such legal requirements were designed and intended to protect.
- Plaintiffs bring this enforcement action on behalf of themselves, all others similarly situated, the general public, and in the interest of the public pursuant to Business and Professions Code § 17204 to prevent future harm to the public at large by seeking to enjoin the unlawful business practices that resulted in soil and groundwater

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proof.

breach of contract, negligence, fraud/misrepresentation, nuisance, trespass, unfair

business practices, and statutory violations, Plaintiffs have been damaged according to

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from "bodily injury" or "property damage." [Endorsement #1, Section IV1.

(c) "Pollution event" means the discharge, dispersal, release or escape of any solid, liquid, gaseous or thermal irritant, contaminant or

1 pollutant, including smoke, vapor, soot, fumes, acids, alkalis, chemicals, and waste. [Section II, N]. 2 (d) "Covered locations" is the real property listed on the endorsement 3 as 4245 Halleck Street in Emeryville, California. [Section II, G]. 4 (e) "Property" damage includes: (1) physical injury to or destruction 5 of tangible property including the resulting loss of use thereof; (2) loss of use of tangible property that has not been physically 6 injured or destroyed; (3) cleanup costs"; or (4) natural resource 7 damages. [Section II, O]. 8 243. The primary purpose of the EIL Policy was to satisfy Title 22 regulations for financial assurance: "Coverage pursuant to this paragraph is effective solely provided 10 that the "claim" is one for which the "insured" is required to demonstrate financial 11 assurance pursuant to 22 CCR 66264.147 or 22 CCR 66265.147." EIL Policy, ¶2, Insuring 12 Agreement (as modified by Endorsement No.1). 13 244. 22 CCR § 66264.147(a) and 66265.147(a) provide in relevant part that: 14 "An owner or operator of a hazardous waste transfer, treatment, storage or disposal 15 facility or a group of such facilities, shall demonstrate to the Department financial 16 responsibility for *bodily injury* and *property damage* to *third parties* caused by *sudden* 17 accidental occurrences arising from operations of the facility or group of facilities in the 18 amount of at least \$ 1 million per occurrence with an annual aggregate of at least \$ 2 19 million, exclusive of legal defense costs..." (Emphasis Added). "Sudden accidental 20 occurrence" means "an unforeseen and unexpected accident which is not continuous or 21 repeated in nature and results in bodily injury, property damage or environmental 22 degradation." 22 CCR § 66260.10. 23 245. The insurance placed by Technichem, Inc. with Zurich Insurance Company 24 was intended to benefit Plaintiff as the owner of the property, which is a "covered 25 location" on the EIL Policy. In addition, the policy affords coverage for "losses" including

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DTSC's directives.

"property damage", which are more broadly defined and encompass response costs to

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TWENTY-SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION

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(Declaratory Judgment – Against Zurich Insurance Company only)

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Plaintiffs reallege and incorporate by reference the allegations of paragraphs 1 through 252 of this complaint.

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254. A dispute has arisen between Plaintiffs and Zurich Insurance Company concerning and relating to Plaintiffs' rights, obligations and duties with regard to the

contamination and with regard to the insurance. Plaintiffs allege that Technichem, Inc.

was required to obtain insurance in an amount necessary to pay for all damage related to

contamination at the Property. Zurich Insurance Company issued the policy to provide

6 such coverage and financial assurance. Plaintiffs further allege that Zurich Insurance

Company failed to pay an amount necessary to reimburse Plaintiffs for all loss and

damage to the property from the contamination and to defend Plaintiffs against claims by DTSC.

255. A judicial declaration is necessary and appropriate at this time in order that Plaintiffs may ascertain their rights and duties with regard to the policy and the insurance benefits.

256. Plaintiffs seek a declaration by this court that Zurich Insurance Company is obligated contractually to indemnify and defend Plaintiffs for claims by DTSC related to Plaintiff's property; that Plaintiffs complied with all conditions and obligations under the subject insurance policy with respect to their rights to defense and indemnity relating to the underlying claims; that because of Zurich Insurance Company's breach of contract and denial of coverage, Plaintiffs have been damaged according to proof.

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PRAYER FOR RELIEF

Plaintiffs pray for judgment against Defendants as follows:

1. For mandatory, preliminary and permanent injunction pursuant to RCRA ordering Defendants to take all necessary actions to investigate, abate, and cleanup the contamination at or emanating from the Property, including but not limited to ordering Defendants to investigate, abate and remediate the endangerment posed by the contamination, and to comply, at their expense, with any and all regulatory agencies' demands regarding the contamination;

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remediate the contamination;

restoring to Plaintiffs all money they have spent to respond to, investigate, remove or

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- For damages according to proof at trial, including but not limited to rent 12. owed to Plaintiffs, related to Technichem, Inc. and Mark Ng's occupancy of the Property and breach of the lease;
- 13. For damages according to proof at trial for all costs and expenses paid and to be paid in complying with regulatory agency's claims relating to investigation and cleanup of the Property;
- 14. For an award of the costs of this litigation including but not limited to costs that Plaintiffs have incurred and continue to incur to defend themselves against thirdparty claims relating to the investigation and cleanup of site contamination on the Property, reasonable attorneys' fees and experts' fees, and including but not limited to similar fees to monitor Defendants' compliance with any orders or judgments issued by this Court pursuant to RCRA § 7002(e), 42 U.S.C § 6972(e), and California Code of Civil Procedure § 1021.5;
- For any award of damages, in amount according to proof at trial, consisting 15. of the costs, fees, and other expenses authorized under California Code of Civil Procedure section 1021.6;
- 16. For any and all remedies authorized under section California Health and Safety Code §§ 25359, et. seq.; California Health and Safety Code §§ 25249.5 et seq.; California Health and Safety Code §§ 25100 et seg.; Health & Safety Code §§ 25189(c)-(d); California Water Code §§ 13000 et. seq.; and Fish & Game Code §§ 5650, et. seq., including but not limited to actual damages and civil penalties for each incident in which Defendants knowingly and willfully failed to provide written notice when required by Health and Safety Code §§ 25359.7(b)(1) and 25182(c)-(d) of the release or threatened release at or under the Property or of that condition to Plaintiffs under Defendants' lease(s);
- 17. For declaratory judgment pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure, § 1060 declaring that Defendants are engaged in an unlawful business practice constituting unfair competition in violation of Business and Professions Code, §§ 17200 et seq. by

having knowingly and intentionally exposed individuals to a chemical known to the State of California to cause developmental and reproductive toxicity without first giving clear 2 and reasonable warning as required by Health and Safety Code §§ 25359.7 et seq.; 3 For punitive and exemplary damages as justified by proof at trial pursuant 4 18. to Cal. Civ. Code § 3294, because Defendants' conduct was so outrageous and 5 oppressive as to demonstrate a conscious and/or reckless disregard for human health 6 7 and safety and the environment; 8 For entry of a declaratory judgment against Defendants and in favor of 19. Plaintiffs according to proof at trial; 9 20. For declaratory judgment that Zurich Insurance Company is obligated 10 contractually to indemnify and defend Plaintiffs for claims by DTSC related to Plaintiff's 11 12 property; For prejudgment interest at the maximum rate permitted by law; 13 21. 22. For such other and further relief as the Court may deem appropriate. 14 15 16 **JURY DEMAND** 17 Plaintiffs hereby demand a trial by jury of all issues triable by jury. 18 19 Dated: April 30, 2008 20 WACTOR & WICK LLP 21 Bν: 22 WILLIAM D. WICK 23 JON K. WACTOR ANNA L. NGUYEN 24 Attornevs for Plaintiffs Virginia Pellegrini, and 25 Virginia Pellegrini, Trustee of the Mario J. and Virginia E. 26 Pellearini Trust 27 28

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	WILLIAM D. WICK (State Bar No. 063462)			
2	JON K. WACTOR (State Bar No. 141566) ANNA L. NGUYEN (State Bar. No. 226829) WACTOR & WICK LLP			
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4	Telephone: (510) 465-5750			
5	Facsimile: (510) 465-5697			
6	Attorneys for Plaintiffs Virginia Pellegrini and			
7	Virginia Pellegrini, Trustee of the Mario J. and Virginia E. Pellegrini Trust			
8				
9	ANALYSIS STATES DISTRICT COURT			
10	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT			
11	FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA			
12				
13	VIRGINIA PELLEGRINI, Trustee of the Mario J. and Virginia E. Pellegrini Trust,	Case No. 07-CV-02497-CRB		
14	and VIRGINIA PELLEGRINI, an individual,			
15	Plaintiffs,	CERTIFICATION OF INTERESTED		
16	,	ENTITIES OR PERSONS		
17	V.			
18	TECHNICHEM, INC., a California			
19	corporation, MARK J. NG, an individual; STEPHEN S. TUNG, an individual;			
20	BOBBY PAGE CLEANERS, BONDED CLEANERS, CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY PATROL; CALIFORNIA STATE PRISON			
21	- CORCORAN, CALIFORNIA STATE PRISON AT FOLSOM, CALIFORNIA			
22				
23	DISCOUNT CLEANERS, DOLLAR			
24				
25				
26	BOARD, INTERCITY CLEANERS, M & M CLEANERS, MONROVIA CLEANERS,			
27	MULE CREEK STATE PRISON, ONE HOUR CLEANERS, ONE PRICE			
28	CLEANERS, PACIFIC GROVE CLEANERS, PARADISE CLEANERS,			
K LLP Suite 950	PARK AVENUE CLEANERS,	-1-		

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1	PROCUREMENT OFFICE OF THE
2	DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS, CORRECTIONAL TRAINING FACILITY, PROCUREMENT OFFICE OF THE
3	SIERRA CONSERVATION CENTER, R. BAUERLE TRUCKING, RESOLVENT,
4	INC., ROMIC ENVIRONMENTAL TECHNOLOGIES, SAVE-ON CLEANERS,
5	VIRGINIA CLEANERS, VOGUE CLEANERS, ZURICH INSURANCE
6	COMPANy, and DOES 1 to 200,
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8	Derendants.
9 :	
10	Pursuant to Civil Local Rule 3-16, the undersigned certifies that as of this date,
11	other than the named parties, there is no such interest to report.
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13	
14	Dated: April 30, 2008
15	WACTOR & WICK LLP
16	W.C. OK & WICK ELL
17	By:
18	WILLIAM D. WICK JON K. WACTOR
19	ANNA L. NGUYEN Attorneys for Plaintiffs
20	Virginia Pellegrini, and Virginia Pellegrini, Trustee of the Mario J. and Virginia E.
21	Trustee of the Mario J. and Virginia E. Pellegrini Trust
22	Tonegram Trade
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WACTOR & WICK LLP 180 Grand Avenue, Suite 950 Oakland, CA 94612	-2-

CERTIFICATION OF INTERESTED ENTITIES OR PERSONS TO FIRST AMENDED COMPLAINT

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PROUP OF SERVICE

I am a resident of the State of California, over the age of eighteen years, and not a party to the within action. My business address is 180 Grand Avenue, Suite 950, Oakland, California. On April 30, 2008 I served the within document(s):

PLAINTIFF VIRGINIA PELLEGRINI AS TRUSTEE OF THE MARIO J. & VIRGINIA E. PELLEGRINI TRUST, and VIRGINIA PELLEGRINI, AN INDIVIDUAL, FIRST AMENDED COMPLAINT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL COST RECOVERY AND CONTRIBUTION, INJUNCTIVE RELIEF, DECLARATORY RELIEF, AND DAMAGES

By electronically filing the document(s) listed above with the United States District Court, Northern District of California through CM/ECF (E-file);

by placing the document(s) listed above in a sealed envelope with postage thereon fully prepaid, in United States mail in the State of California at Oakland, CA, addressed as set forth below;

by causing the document(s) listed above to be personally delivered to the person(s) at the address(es) set forth below;

by placing the document(s) listed above in a sealed envelope with postage fully prepaid, and mailing via overnight mail service, addressed as set forth below.

I am readily familiar with the firm's practice of collection and processing correspondence for mailing. Under that practice it would be deposited with the U.S. Postal Service on that same day with postage thereon fully prepaid in the ordinary course of business. I am aware that on motion of the party served, service is presumed invalid if postal cancellation date or postage meter date is more than one day after the date of deposit for mailing in affidavit.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the above is true and correct.

Executed on April 30, 2008 at Oakland, California.

<u>Carol B. Elect</u> Carol B. Ebert

Addressee(s):

Brian M. Ledger
Paul A. Henreid
Gordon & Rees LLP
101 West Broadway
Suite 1600
San Diego, CA 92101

Attorneys for Defendants Technichem Inc., Mark J. Ng, and Stephen S. Tung